

## The Omaha Bee.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPRIETORS.  
J. H. BEE, Editor.

THE Princess Louise has reached Canada without falling a victim to the dynamite fiends.

FASHIONABLE collars now come very high, but most young men appear to think they must have them.

It is high time that the wooden sidewalks in the central portion of the city were replaced with stone, concrete or other pavements.

CARTER HARRISON proposes to bring about practical reforms in the government of Chicago. It is easier to be a reform mayor after the election than a reformed candidate before it.

RHODE ISLAND is a little state, but its legislature is a business body. It met and adjourned within three weeks after transacting more business than any previous legislature for years.

GEORGIA has become the Pennsylvania of the south. Atlanta alone, has nearly \$6,000,000 invested in manufacturing, and over \$2,500,000 is paid out annually as wages to hands employed in her industries.

POSTMASTER GENERAL GREENHAM has put his foot down on Frank Hatton's system of appointments. Mr. Hatton is beginning to discover that he can neither run or run over Mr. Rowe's successor.

FROM present indications the prospect for a large wheat crop in Europe is less than in the United States. In Great Britain the acreage is estimated to be 15 per cent. and in France 10 per cent. smaller than last year. The area sown in Russia and Austria is also a decreased one, while the outlook for a good yield is considered poor almost everywhere.

A FINAL dividend will shortly be declared from the wreck of the Freedman's Saving bank. If the amount which is confidently expected, proves available, the following dividend will make 62 or 63 per cent of the total amount owed depositors at the time of the failure. At the time when the bank went into the hands of a receiver \$3,037,500.40 was due depositors and \$1,444,806.17 has since been paid.

THE new Kansas railroad commission is charged with general supervision of all railroads in the state operated by steam and all express companies, sleeping car companies and all other persons, companies or corporations doing business as common carriers. It has absolute power to fix freight rates. Kansas has taken a long step towards the solution of the railroad problem.

THE Washington Republican asserts that it has information to the effect that hundreds of evil disposed Irishmen go about London after drinking gallons of kerosene and threaten to set fire to themselves in order to destroy the city. A large organization has been discovered of Irishmen whose sole food is dynamite, and they are sworn to jump up at a signal and explode themselves in the heart of London when they light.

THE signal service has been forced to provide the funds for the Greeley relief expedition, owing to the refusal of congress to make the necessary appropriation. The party will start for Lady Franklin Bay in June. While it is not impossible that Lieutenant Greeley and his men have suffered serious privation, owing to their stay having been prolonged a year longer than they had expected, there is little reason to fear for them such a fate as befell DeLong's party. The delay in relieving them was anticipated as possible, and provision was made for it. Moreover, food was deposited in four different spots on the natural line of retreat, and Lieutenant Greeley will carefully husband his resources until relief comes. Besides, as the party will not be exhausted by a long and inclement voyage in an open boat with insufficient food, his men will have greater strength to push on toward safety than the Jeannette party had. On the whole, there is little reason to expect a fatal ending of Lieutenant Greeley's expedition. It remains to be seen, however, whether the scientific results are worth the risk, exposure and expense.

## SMALL FARMS AND LARGE PROFITS.

Western farmers often make a great mistake in attempting to cultivate too much ground. A small farm well cultivated is always more profitable than a large farm half attended to. The countries where agriculture has reached the highest stage of prosperity are without exception the countries of small farms. According to the census we had over 4,000,000 farms in 1880, but we had only 138,124 that were less than ten acres each. In several of the eastern states, a farm of ten acres, carefully cultivated, may be depended upon to support a large family.

The state of New York affords the best illustration of what may be done by small farming. Most of the farms in that state are small, ranging from ten acres to 200, but the average being under fifty acres. The total land cultivated in farms in 1879 was in round numbers 18,000,000 acres, and the farms 377,900 in number. Let us note here that in 1879 there were 5,000,000 acres reported under cultivation in Nebraska. The total product of the 18,000,000 acres in small farms in New York were valued at \$178,925,695. But one other state (Illinois), with 26,000,000 acres cultivated produced more than New York. The acreage cultivated in Illinois was 40 per cent. more than in New York, but the value of products was but 13 per cent. more. It is the difference between large and small farms. While the Illinois farms average about 60 acres, the New York farms run below 50. New York is not a great grain state. But it produces one-seventh of all the hay of the country, and that means a great dairy business, which is more profitable than grain farming. New York produced in 1879 almost exactly one-seventh of all the butter made in the United States and nearly one-third of all the cheese. The total value of the fruit produced in all the states in 1879 is stated officially at \$50,876,154. New York's share of this total was \$8,409,794, or one-sixth. The whole hop crop of the United States in 1879 was 26,536,378 pounds; New York, 21,628,931 pounds, or about 80 per cent of the whole. If she had such a hop crop last year it brought her farmers half as much clear profit as all our crops together.

A rigid comparison between New York and Nebraska agriculturally is unfair, because New York possesses a nearness to the markets and peculiar climatic advantages which we do not have. But the comparison drawn, making every allowance for these considerations, shows the great advantages of small and well cultivated farms. The fact is that we have not yet tested the capabilities of Nebraska soil under a thorough and scientific cultivation. We have had few inducements to do so. Land has been plenty and cheap and our farmers have distributed their energies over too wide a field. As the state fills up this fault will remedy itself and our yield per acre of the great staples will increase in proportion with the more careful cultivation which is certain to follow. Our farmers will then learn by experience that a well cultivated "eighty" will bring them larger returns than a full section now does under half hearted and indifferent cultivation.

THE Apache outbreak has caused a revival of the argument that the Indian bureau ought to be turned over to the war department. The only sensible reason that has yet been advanced in favor of this move is that it would give employment to a couple of hundred of army officers who have nothing else to do. Since 1789 the Indians have cost the government \$203,409,443.71. The annual amount expended through the Indian bureau averages about \$8,000,000 yearly, and the greater portion of this sum is disbursed through the Indian agencies. There is a general impression that a good deal of it sticks in the hands of middle men somewhere between the contractors and the Indians, and it is urged in some quarters that replacing civilian agents by army officers would entirely do away with pilfering besides greatly reducing the expenses of the government. We fall to see the force of the arguments. Human nature is pretty much the same in the army as well as in civil life. If the country had never heard of quartermasters who, during the war and in times of peace, made money out of army contracts, when opportunity offered, they might be induced to believe that the red tape and regulations of the various departments of the army could prevent the evils which have been complained of at the Indian agencies. Army regulations are very elastic in their application and red tape stretches frequently under the right or wrong kind of tension. No one doubts that the morale of the agencies would probably be much improved, but the remedy would not by any means be a sure one. In the first place, as a rule, army officers are not business men. They are notoriously extravagant in their use of the public funds and scarcely less so in the manner in which they dispose of the contents of their private purses. In the second place, their

training and profession naturally unfit them to deal with the Indian question except on a war basis. The army strikes its best gait as a peace-maker when armed with rifle and carbine. The true remedy for the evils which attend our method of managing the Indians is to secure a class of agents who will have greater inducements to remain honest than to steal. At present we place a premium on dishonesty by paying the agents a salary about equal to that of a first lieutenant in the army, and making him the disbursing officer for hundreds of thousands' worth of property every year. If the salaries of our Indian agents were made at all commensurate with the responsibilities of the position, men of character and ability would be found willing and able to administer the position with honesty and ability. And that is all that the most upright and competent army officer could do, after all.

## NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The board of education proposes to erect two new school buildings in Omaha this year, and architects have been invited to furnish plans for their construction. We hope that in the plans offered more attention will be given to the important points of light, heat and ventilation than has been done in times past in our Omaha school houses. We want no architectural monstrosities like the Cass street school, and we ought to have solid and well built structures. But the exterior appearance of our school houses is after all a small matter when compared with their sanitary appointments. Cheerful, well ventilated school rooms are almost as important for the efficiency of a school system as cheerful and competent teachers. No pupil can do himself or his lessons justice when the light is trying to the eyes and the air clogging to the brain. So far as possible all sides of a school building ought to be freely exposed to light and air. The distance from any opposite building, on this account ought not to be less than forty feet, and the building should not occupy more than half the lot.

The commission on school buildings for the District of Columbia who have studied the subject thoroughly make the following additional recommendations:

Not more than three of the floors, better only two, shall be occupied for class-rooms, and in each class-room not less than 15 square feet of floor area shall be allotted to each pupil. The window space in each class-room should not be less than one-fourth of the floor space, and the distance of the desk most remote from the window should not be more than one-half times the height of the top of the window from the floor, and the height of the class-room should never exceed 14 feet.

The provisions for ventilation should be such as to provide for each person in a classroom not less than thirty cubic feet of fresh air per minute, which amount must be introduced and thoroughly distributed without creating unpleasant draughts or causing any two parts of the room to differ in temperature more than 20 degrees Fahrenheit, or the maximum temperature to exceed 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The velocity of the incoming air should not exceed 2 feet per second at any point where it is liable to strike on the person.

The heating of the fresh air should be effected by indirect radiation. All closets for containing clothing and wraps should be thoroughly ventilated. These are all practical suggestions which the board of education will do well to take into consideration before accepting any of the plans offered.

THE supreme court has granted a stay of proceedings in the case of Zimmerman, the Minden murderer, upon what is understood to be a purely technical point. If the bench at Lincoln believe the convicted criminal to be entitled to this new chance for life they are compelled under their oath to afford it. Public resentment against the murderer must not be directed against the laws under whose operation he has been sentenced to die. There is a great deal of senseless and dangerous comment in the press about "the failure of justice." Justice cannot fail. The application of law may fail to result in justice through no fault of the law itself but justice itself is above failure. The taking of a man's life is a serious matter even when done in a legal manner. It ought to be hedged around by every safeguard from mistake. On this account our laws, with a view to securing justice, afford an accused criminal every opportunity to prove his innocence even at the foot of the gallows. The theory that it is better that ninety-nine guilty men should escape than that one innocent man should suffer is in the interests of society. It was due to no defect in the law Olive escaped the gallows. The law was explicit, competent and applicable. The failure arose from gross incompetency in its application by public officers paid to understand the provisions of the criminal code and presumably conversant with it. A faulty indictment cannot be charged against the law. The district attorney who draws it up is responsible, and if the criminal escapes through its quashing by the

count the law cannot be blamed. People who understand the matter find less fault with the law than with the manner in which it is enforced.

A FALLING OFF of \$4,000,000 a year in the sale of stamps is looked for by the postoffice department under the new law, but the postmaster general hopes that the increased use of the mails through two cent. postage will make up the deficiency.

WITH our water works system and hose carts the steam fire engines have become mere matters of ornament. In six months time they have been called out of their homes to a fire but once. If retrenchment in the city expenditures is necessary this is one matter that will bear investigation. A paid fireman and engineer for the two steamers which are practically useless, are superfluous. In case an emergency should arise, provision could easily be made for securing the necessary men.

## Vain Hope.

Philadelphia Times.  
It is hoped in political circles in Vienna that the United States government will put a stop to dynamite plotting and such things in this country. So long as the American Indian is able to go on the war path with a government rifle this country will have no time to waste on dynamite plotters.

## Improved Models.

Chicago Times.  
If Secretary Chandler while on the waters of the Klamme would carefully inspect a Florida dugout, he might get a useful suggestion as to how the American navy may be improved.

## Grave Robbery.

Philadelphia News.  
The report that there had been a disgraceful grave robbery in New York was a mistake. The rumor arose from the statement that democratic papers had nominated S. J. Tilden for 1884.

## A Flat Compliment.

Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.  
It is a compliment to the new postmaster general that no one assumes that his appointment has any bearing upon the star route trials.

## OCCIDENTAL JOTTINGS.

CALIFORNIA.  
The Chinese quarters at Dutch Flat was destroyed by fire early last Sunday morning.

The receipts for duties at the San Francisco custom house for the past week were \$100,322.53, making a total since January 1st of \$24,645.08.

Albake, a Chinese burglar confined in the Marquette jail, committed suicide last week by severing the arteries of both wrists with a piece of glass.

Mrs. Maggie Thorn, of Stockton, while intoxicated last week, bit about one-half of an inch from the tongue of her son, who refused to prosecute her.

The railroad company has commenced work at Redding on the grade of the extension of the California & Oregon road. The working force is not large, but it will be increased in a short time.

Twenty-six pounds of opium, valued at \$308, was found in the Arabic at San Francisco last Saturday night. The search still continues on the vessel, and nearly \$20,000 worth of contraband goods have already been discovered on board of her.

Last Sunday seven Chinamen were formally admitted to membership in the First Presbyterian church of Los Angeles. After answering the usual questions through an interpreter they knelt at the altar and were baptized.

Martin Mitchell, who was tried, convicted and sentenced at Oroville to eight years' imprisonment for perjury, was granted a new trial by the supreme court. On the second trial he was again found guilty and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

Billy McDowell, the murderer of Maggie O'Brien, confined in the San Bernardino jail, exhibiting signs of weakness, has sent for a clergyman to say prayers for him. The murderer expresses repentance for his past life, and it is thought will confess his crime.

Thomas Grant, a young man who recently killed a Chinese cook in Butte county, was tried and acquitted last week. The defense proved that the murdered man had applied vile epithets to Grant, and that the jury deemed it sufficient provocation to warrant the killing.

The supervisors of Sacramento have instructed the district attorney to bring suit against the Central Pacific railroad company to recover the state and county taxes delinquent and due from said railroad company for the fiscal year 1882-3. The taxes amount to about \$18,000.

On the 24th inst. Ricardo Boon, a justice of peace, lay in wait in a woods near San Antonio, N. M., for Patricio Boon and wounded him with an ax. The victim died last Sunday from the wound. The cause of the murder was a quarrel about a woman, and as the murderer is a weak man it is feared he will escape punishment.

Information has been received at Candelaria that Mike Bonner, a former employee at the Northern Plains mine, perished on the desert between the terminals of the Carson and Colorado railroad Calico mining district. He attempted to make the trip on foot, without a supply of water and without the knowledge of the country, and it is presumed lost his way, became overcome with the heat and lay down and died.

## MONTANA.

An 80-acre tract of land just west of the Bozeman town site has been sold for \$10,000.

The legal name is now "The City of Fort Benton," the incorporation act being so worded.

The Northern Pacific engineers now say the locomotive will whistle at Maren's Gulch by June 1st.

Enough steel rails are piled up at Bozeman to almost lay the track of the Northern Pacific to Helena.

As yet it is impossible to bring a Pullman car over the temporary track across the range east of Bozeman.

Governor Crosby has appointed Capt. Thomas P. Fuller as adjutant general upon his resignation, and has named Arthur for his action in suspending Judge Conner, and remonstrating against the reinstatement of that gentleman, was circulated and signed the week in Bozeman.

Low and Lay, accused of the murder of Irving Hunter, near Bozeman, have been bound over in the sum of \$5,000 each to appear before the grand jury and answer to the charge of murder.

Twenty-two soldiers deserted from the Second Cavalry and Fifth Infantry in

Montana last pay day, and double that number is expected to desert when the new lot of ground is sold. At the rate, the United States army will shortly consist solely of officers.

## DAKOTA.

Huron claims a jobbing trade of a quarter of a million dollars annually. Thirty thousand acres of land were filed in the Huron land office one day last week. A \$20,000 hotel is to be built in Ciall City and to be ready for occupancy by the 1st of May.

The new city officials of Mayville are all leading business men and they are expected to give a first-class administration. The Bismarck land office did the largest business in its history on last Monday. There were 1,015 claims taken on that day.

Dakota will now 1,500 acres more wheat this year than he did last season. He also denies that he wants to sell any of his Dakota land.

Whole car loads of passengers stop at St. Thomas, Pembina county, daily, and every train brings numerous immigrants and their property.

The (Canton) and Casey land company will commence the erection of a \$5,000 hotel at Cantoning in a few days. The material for the purpose is ready.

Several good sales of land have been made in the vicinity of Flandran during the past few days, at prices ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for unimproved quarter sections.

The commercial wire for the new telegraph line from the east to Huron is already distributed along the line of the Dakota Central, and is expected to be in working order in about a week.

Moody county is prospering and progressing rapidly. The farmers owe less than they did a year ago, the demand for chattel mortgage money has fallen off in a great degree, and lands are worth fully 25 per cent more.

## COLORADO.

The cashier's office of the Denver & Rio Grande railway has been removed from Colorado Springs to Denver.

The Denver and California Short Line railroad company filed a certificate of incorporation last week at Denver. The capital is \$10,000,000.

Alfred Packer, the San Juan man eater, has been tried at Lake City and found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hanged.

The new city hall at Denver has been finished and it is described as an elegant structure. The council chamber is the very finest in the country.

The Denver Republican has been so long the organ of the Denver and Rio Grande railroad that the other papers now call it the "Rio Grande Folder."

A rich strike of ruby and brittle silver has recently been made in the Native Silver No. 2, near Four Mile ranch in Gunnison county. The vein is about five feet wide, and the ore runs as high as 1,000 ounces of silver to the ton.

A destructive fire occurred in Denver last week which originated in the oil house of the Continental oil company. The fire burned fiercely, and the whole city was enveloped in a dense black smoke during its progress. The estimated loss is placed at \$150,000.

The postoffice at Denver has been a source of strife among the politicians lately. Byers, the former postmaster, was ousted and a man named Morris appointed. The former refused to give up the office, and the latter was at it with a will until recently, when, by a neat stratagem, he got possession and now holds the fort.

## WYOMING.

Laramie City has organized a board of trade. What it will do with staffer it has got it remains to be seen.

Cheyenne had a snow storm the other day which is said to have been the heaviest which has ever occurred in the territory at this season of the year.

The Cheyenne opera house company has been reorganized and a second mortgage placed on the structure. The proceeds will be used to repair the building.

Within one day's drive of Laramie City are placer gold diggings, which are said to be sufficiently rich to be worked with profit. A company has been formed for the purpose, and will commence work on them.

The Wyoming prisoners which are at Lincoln, Nebraska, formerly cost the territory 65¢ each per day. The cost has been so reduced that only one-half of this amount is now necessary for their maintenance.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The drug store of G. H. Hatch, of Aurora, Nev., was destroyed by fire last week.

The life-saving crew at Cape Hancock, Or., has disbanded, but for what reason is not stated.

Governor Low, of Nevada, has contracted to furnish 50,000,000 feet of Bal river redwood for the Panama Canal.

Sunday night tramps set fire to the large tobacco house of Oline & Shaw, at Socorro, N. M. It was burned to the ground. The loss is \$2,000.

Mrs. Marie Clarissa Dillon (nee Plamondon), wife of Rev. Isaac Dillon of the Oregon Conference Methodist Episcopal Church, died of paralysis at Seattle, W. T., Saturday.

Mrs. Robinson, wife of the Baptist minister of Socorro, N. M., was arrested on Monday on a warrant sworn out by John Scott before Justice Beale, charging her with an attempt to take his life with an ax.

William Holt, secretary of the Plasterers' union of Portland, Ore., telegraphs a denial of the statement that appeared in a morning contemporary to the effect that 100 plasterers could get employment there within twenty-four hours after arrival. Mr. Holt states that there are a number of unemployed plasterers in Portland, and that the spring work is about completed.

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TO ARCHITECTS—Plans and specifications are solicited by the board of Education of the School district of Omaha, Nebraska, for two two-story eight room brick school buildings with basement for steam-heating and janitor's room. One building to be erected on the north-west corner of Seventeenth and Leavenworth streets and one building to be erected on the south-west corner of Delaware and King Streets.  
Plans will be received up to 7:30 p. m. Monday May 24th 1883.  
The board reserves the right to reject any or all plans.  
No money will be paid for rejected plans.  
CHARLES CONYER,  
Omaha April 19th 1883. Apr. 19-24 d

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